

Year's search for piece of history ends at Provo Canyon stone wall

By PATRICK CHRISTIAN
Herald Staff Writer

Dave Grow, the owner of the recreational facilities at Bridal Veil Falls, had searched for a piece of Utah history in Provo Canyon for over a year until he found it.

One day, after walking through thick brush, he found what he had been searching for. It was a breastwork of hand-laid stones.

The protective ring of stones is believed to have been constructed by early Mormon settlers to spy on an approaching U.S. Army force.

Since locating the historic site, Grow has shared his find with a few historians, and had the site placed on a state historical register in May. About 45 days ago, the site was also entered on a national register of historic sites.

Now he is working behind the scenes to try to get someone to make the site a protected public historical monument that everyone can visit. But he's keeping the location secret to protect it from vandalism or memorabilia-grabbers who might steal the stones for their own private collection.

Grow says his search started after reading an out-of-publication history of Provo in which the author wrote of a circular breastwork of rocks constructed in Provo Canyon in response to reports that the U.S. Army was coming to Utah, possibly to cause trouble.

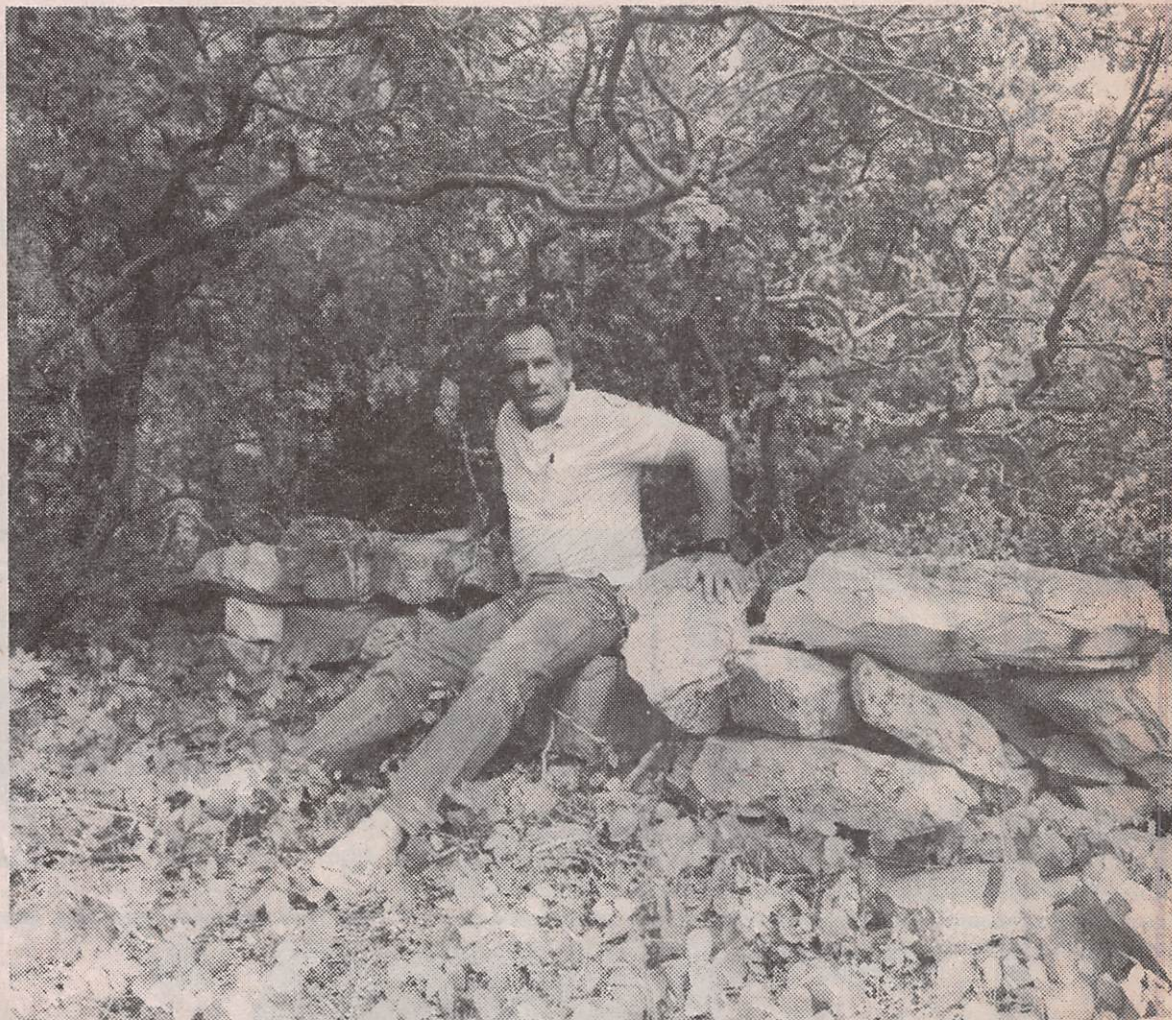
The book said word of an approaching army came to Mormon settlers who were assembled in Big Cottonwood Canyon on Pioneer Day (July 24) in 1857.

News was brought by Abraham O. Smoot, Judson Stoddard and Orrin Porter Rockwell, who had seen the army gathering near the Missouri River and returned to Utah to warn the settlers.

According to the book, territorial governor Brigham Young declared martial law and called out a Mormon military organization known as the Nauvoo Legion.

Since settlers apparently thought that, if the army led by Col. Albert Sidney Johnston did come, it would likely enter the Wasatch Front valley through Echo Canyon, a Mormon military presence was established there.

But the book claimed, "It was also deemed necessary to keep a lookout in Provo Canyon for the approaching army, and a detail of



Patrick Christian Photo

Dave Grow rests against a section of breastwork originally built to spy on soldiers during 1850s.

ten men was assigned to duty there...Here they built circular breastworks of rocks, the ruins of which are still to be seen."

After reading that passage talking of a breastwork of rocks that could still be seen, Grow spent much of his free time searching Provo Canyon.

"We looked and looked and looked," said Grow.

"I offered a \$100 reward to my employees and to my Sunday School class," he said. He frequently took his Sunday School class on outings to the canyon to scour different areas in search of the breastwork.

Twelve months went by and all he found is what would be expected in Provo Canyon — rocks and vegetation. No circular rock wall placed stone-by-stone by early Mormon settlers was found.

Then it happened. Grow said one day he was searching and went through some thick under-

brush and found himself face-to-face with rocks obviously placed by hand to form a two-rock-thick wall nearly a couple of feet high.

It was just like the book had described. Grow was convinced he had found what he had searched over a year to find.

"I jumped up and down and screamed, and I was all by myself," said Grow.

About a week later he shared his find with a few board members of the Scenic Canyon Preservation Society, of which he is a member.

He said the group is trying to come up with a way of protecting the historic site while making it accessible.

"It's hard to know how to include such a site in the menu of historic treasures and yet protect it from destruction," said Grow.

Because early settlers camped at the site for several months and may have dropped or discarded

items, there may be a little buried history that archaeologists might find interesting. But Grow fears an archaeological dig could destroy the site.

He said among the possibilities for the site is protecting it with a fence and commemorating the site with a statue of the pioneers who camped there waiting for the army. He said whatever is done, short of leaving it as it is and trying to keep it a secret, would require money. Grow said he's not sure where it would come from.

Apparently, the site is not a complete secret. At least two beer cans have been found there so someone knows the location of the breastwork, even if they don't comprehend the historical significance of the pile of rocks.

Nevertheless, Grow is excited with his find, though he is also anxious about what will happen next.

PROVO: State groups tell honors

(Continued from page-1)

our program," he said. "We're excited about it. We think it's great."

The Governor's Commission on Law and Citizenship is officially recognized by the federal Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution as the Utah bicentennial commission. The federal commission is appointed by Congress and chaired by former U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger.

The Utah commission, which includes U.S. Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah; and Salt Lake businessman and scholar Dr. Obert C. Tanner, is in charge of promoting and coordinating the Sept. 17, 1987, observance of the Constitution's bicentennial in Utah.

"The bicentennial of the Constitution is our focus now and throughout the next year," said commission chairman Brinton R. Burbidge.

Brigham City, Blanding and Salt

Lake County have also become designated bicentennial communities in Utah, he said.

"We know of several other cities and towns that have their programs well underway and look forward to providing them with the same recognition soon," Burbidge said. "It's really quite an honor. If a community is among the first 200 designated nationally, special recognition is given."

"Many people view the Constitution's bicentennial as the greatest

event of 1987," he said. Various groups, civic organizations, government agencies, schools, colleges, universities and businesses are already planning celebrations.

"It's important that the bicentennial be celebrated at the grassroots level," Burbidge said.

"Whether it's producing a major special event involving hundreds or thousands of people, or taking a more passive role...the Governor's Commission wants everyone to be involved," he said.

Army tells plans to build Tooele Depot facility

By LEE RODERICK

Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Army has agreed to fund a proposed new \$59 million consolidated maintenance facility at the Tooele Army Depot. Utah officials announced Wednesday morning.

Gen. Richard H. Thompson, com-

manding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, gave the commitment to the Utahns in a meeting earlier this morning.

The 372,000-square-foot building will be funded and constructed in the 1989 fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1, 1988, members of the Utah congressional delegation and Utah

Lt. Gov. Val Oveson said this morning in a joint press conference in the office of Sen. Orrin Hatch.

The building will replace 33 World War II "temporary" buildings at Tooele. Officials said it will not be used to store chemical weapons, which are now in the

process of being destroyed at the Army facility. An estimated 40 percent of NATO's chemical weapons are stored at Tooele.

It will serve as a maintenance center for all types of Army vehicles, as well as a storage facility for such items as field hospitals and bakeries.

DISCOUNT COUPONS

Newspaper Co-Op Couponing, Westport, Connecticut 06880

50¢

MANUFACTURER COUPON/NO EXPIRATION DATE

50¢

SAVE 50¢
ON YOUR NEXT PURCHASE OF:

"How about those
Kellogg's Corn Flakes
now?"

50¢



CONSUMER: Offer good on all sizes EXCEPT single serving size packages and is limited to one coupon per package purchased.

RETAILER: KELLOGG SALES COMPANY will redeem this coupon in accordance with our redemption policy, copies available upon request. Cash value: 1/100¢. Void where prohibited, taxed or restricted by law. Mail coupons to: DEPT. K, P.O. Box 20020, EL PASO, TX 79968.

© Kellogg Company © 1986 Kellogg Company



2738

R-F Pasta. The Unsurpasta Italian Meal...

20¢

STORE COUPON EXPIRES 11/30/86

20¢

SAVE 20¢ ON TWO 12-OZ ITEMS OR ONE 16-OZ OR LARGER ITEM

DEALER: This coupon will be redeemed for face value plus 7¢ handling in accordance with the offer stated hereon. Invoices proving purchase within last 90 days of sufficient stock to cover coupons presented for redemption must be made available on request. Any other use constitutes fraud.



This coupon not assignable or transferable. Sales tax must be paid by consumer. Coupon void if taxed, prohibited or restricted by law. Cash value 1/20¢. Valid only in USA. Mail coupon to R-F Macaroni, P.O. Box 752, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. Limit one coupon per purchase. 01092840

20¢

SEIFERTS ANNIVERSARY • SALE

DOORS OPEN AT 10 AM TODAY.

PRACTICALLY OUR ENTIRE FALL STOCK ON SALE!

OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR...SAVE 20%, 30%, UP TO 50%!